

**Subject:** Making art accessible to all Angelenos  
**From:** Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>  
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**To:** lisa@mediadistrict.org

Mitch O'Farrell, Councilmember, 13th District



Friend --

This week, I collaborated with the organization *Arts for LA* to host a special City Council presentation to shine the spotlight on our city's vibrant and diverse arts community.

The celebration featured actor Amy Aquino, spoken word artist Bryonn Bain, muralist Judy Baca, Youth arts advocate Alex Johnson, and Arts for LA executive director Sofia Klatzker. The Council chamber was filled with artists and arts leaders, music, and poetry!

Art and culture elevate society and nurture the soul. Nothing explains the world around us and our place in it better than the arts. It is the ultimate expression of who we are at the very core. As Chair of the City's Arts, Parks, and LA River Committee, I am proud to play my part in helping to enhance the arts and artistic expression across the City of Los Angeles.

Over the past three years, my colleagues and I re-established the [Arts Development Fee](#), freeing up millions of dollars for the arts in Los Angeles. We revived the long stalled [mural ordinance](#), and are [elevating the prominence of Hollywood's Theatre Row along Santa Monica Boulevard](#) in the 13th Council District. As someone who once made his living as a professional artist, this day has a special relevance to me personally. I can draw from my experiences in helping to craft thoughtful policy to promote arts and culture in the City of Los Angeles.

[Enjoy this link with Bryonn's performance in the Council chamber](#), and in the meantime I will be sure to update you on all the policy items I'm directing for the City of LA. Together, we are making a better Los Angeles that incorporates the very best in our creative class, working to make art more accessible to everyone regardless of age, income level, or social status. Art is for everyone!

Warm regards,

Mitch O'Farrell

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#### COMING UP

SUN 4/10 [CYCLE WITH THE LAPD NORTHEAST DIVISION](#)

SAT 4/16 ['SWEEPING OUR STREETS WITH LOVE' COMMUNITY CLEAN UP](#)

SAT 4/16 [RAMPART POLICE STATION OPEN HOUSE](#)

[SEE ALL THE EVENTS ON THE CD13.COM CALENDAR](#)

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#### HEADLINES

On Arts Day in LA, advocates gather at City Hall to urge more investment [[KPCC](#)]

O'Farrell recognizes library volunteers [[BEVERLY PRESS](#)]

Silver Lake apartment owner puts up gate, fence to curb crime [[KABC](#)]

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#### DODGERS HOME OPENER: MITIGATING TRAFFIC AND PARKING CONCERNS

ECHO PARK - Opening Day at Dodger Stadium is this Tuesday, April 12 at 1:10 p.m. The Los Angeles Dodgers host the Arizona Diamondbacks. The Office of Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell has been working with the Dodgers management, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, and the Los Angeles Police Department to make sure residents and fans have a successful event.

The Councilmember's staff will be out on the day of the event to assist with questions or concerns from residents, and has worked with departments on the following mitigations for increased traffic and visitors in the Echo Park neighborhood:

- Secured eight porta potties and trash bins, four at the corner of Elysian Park Dr and Scott Ave, and four at Elysian Park Dr & Academy Rd.
- Worked with LADOT to place 2-hour posted parking from 8 a.m.-2p.m. at the following locations: Portia Street, 1300-1500 Sutherland St, 1300-1500 Quintero St, 1400 block of MacBeth Street.
- Helped secure parking permits for residents on Portia St from Scott Ave to the dead end, and on Morton from Academy to Elysian Park Drive.
- Dispatched Clean Team and the Trash Free Earth Team will be out in the area before and after the event.
- Worked with LADOT to approve one way access on Academy Drive at Morton/Ave of the Palms.
- Requested LAPD to increase patrols on Sunset Boulevard.

If you have any questions or concerns about the event, please contact our Echo Park field deputy Juan Fregoso at 213-207-3015.

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#### TEAM MITCH MAKING A DIFFERENCE - CLIFFORD STREET



ECHO PARK - A local business owner requested a clean up on Clifford Street and Glendale Blvd near Clifford Elementary School. The CD 13 Clean Team went to work, removing weeds, litter and a large abandoned television set. See an area that needs attention in your neighborhood? Contact Sylvan De La Cruz in our Echo Park District Office at 213-207-3015.

[SEE MORE BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK](#)

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#### O'FARRELL TALKS PROMISE ZONE DURING PANEL DISCUSSION



LOS ANGELES - President Obama's Promise Zone initiative aims to elevate communities across the United States, such as our very own Hollywood neighborhood in the 13th Council District. The Promise Zone was the topic of a panel discussion co-Hosted by the Annenberg Foundation, California Community Foundation, The California Endowment, Weingart Foundation, and Southern California Grantmakers. Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell joined the panel and discussed how the initiative will provide local non-profits and businesses the opportunity to work together on solutions for quality of life issues.

CD13 residents have already seen improvements through a grant that was secured by Councilmember O'Farrell, Los Angeles Police Department, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and Youth Policy Institute. The grant funded a new high-tech camera which is being monitored by LAPD Hollywood Division, and a beautification project that discourages graffiti.

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#### **O'FARRELL RECEIVES HONOR FOR WORK TO PROMOTE 99-SEAT THEATRES IN LOS ANGELES**



HOLLYWOOD - Arts advocates Jeanne Sakata, Michael Shepperd, and Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell received honors during the *Hot Night in the City*, the Playwright's Arena event at Barnsdall Park. O'Farrell was awarded the Community Partner award for his work on theatre issues, particularly involving 99 seat theatres.

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#### **NEW BUSINESS: THE DOG CAFE OPENS IN SILVER LAKE**



SILVER LAKE - Congratulations Sarah Wolfgang on opening [The Dog Cafe](#) at 240 N Virgil Avenue. The 13th District is the birthplace of many firsts, including the addition of this new coffee shop that provides a space for visitors to intermingle with rescue dogs ready for adoption from local shelters.

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#### AROUND THE DISTRICT

[O'Farrell, Board of Public Works announce call for artists for streetlight project](#)

[City officials dedicate Sunset Junction Streetscape improvements](#)

VIDEO: [City announces members of new Transgender Advisory Council](#)

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#### PHOTO OF THE WEEK



CITY HALL - Jazz hands! Celebrating the 5th annual Arts Day LA with leaders of the incredibly imaginative and inspiring creative community in Los Angeles!

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